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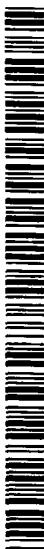
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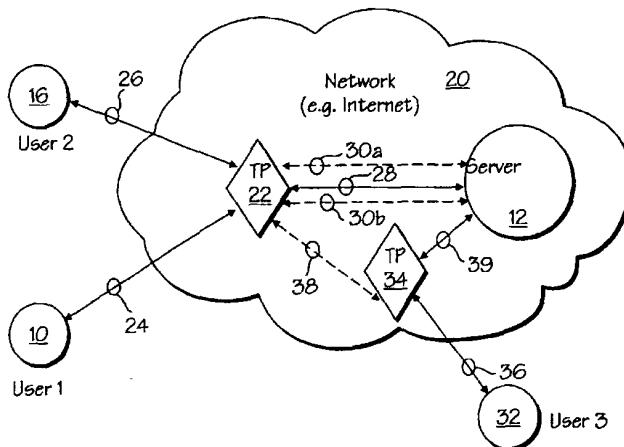
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DYNAMIC PROXY REFLECTING OF STREAMING CONTENT



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(57) Abstract: Multiple content consumers are serviced from a single content source on the basis of an examination of a description of the content requested by the content consumers. That is, a proxy communicatively coupled to the content consumers is configured to examine the requests for content made by the consumers and to determine (e.g., on the basis of meta information associated with the content and/or the content requests, whether live or prerecorded streaming content has been requested. If live content has been requested, the proxy is further configured to dynamically reflect (in a protocol independent fashion) any existing streams that include such content to those of the content consumers that are requesting such content. If prerecorded content is being requested, the proxy is configured to play back a stored version thereof, if available, or to open a connection to the content source for such playback if no stored version of the content is available. In some cases, playbacks of live or stored content from the content source may involve data seaming of multiple connections between the proxy and the content source.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04L29/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G06F H04L H04N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 893 920 A (IBM) 27 January 1999 (1999-01-27)	1-4
Y	abstract	5-7
A	page 3, line 31 - line 34 claim 20; figure 1 ---	8-15
X	CHINEN K & YAMAGUCHI S: "An Interactive Prefetching Proxy Server for Improvement of WWW Latency" PROCEEDINGS OF INET: THE INTERNET: THE GLOBAL FRONTIERS, XX, XX, vol. 1/3, 8 June 1997 (1997-06-08), XP002086569	1-4, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14
A	page 1, line 1 -page 2, line 51 page 4, line 14 - line 30 ---	5-7, 10, 12, 15
		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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International Application No.
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 22316 A (CACHEFLOW INC) 6 May 1999 (1999-05-06) page 1, line 19 -page 3, line 19 A page 4, line 23 -page 7, line 4 claim 1 ---	1-4, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14
Y	US 5 539 749 A (EUL HERMANN-JOSEF) 23 July 1996 (1996-07-23)	5-7
A	column 2, line 23 - line 60 ---	10
A	WO 98 40826 A (IBM UK ; IBM (US)) 17 September 1998 (1998-09-17) page 12, line 8 - line 28 page 29, line 19 - line 32 ---	3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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